

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Metallic pigments with a coating, characterized in that the coating envelops the metallic pigments and comprises at least one of an oligomeric and a polymeric binding agent, which binding agent is at least one of chemically cross-linkable and cross-linkable under the action of means selected from the group consisting of heat, infrared radiation, ultraviolet radiation and electron radiation, which coated metallic pigments are present in the form of a powder which has a particle size d50 of less than 190 μm and are resistant to corrosion following curing in a powder-based varnish, wherein the metallic pigments are produced by milling and wherein the metallic pigments are primed, prior to the application of said coating, with at least one silicon dioxide barrier layer.
2. (Original) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the particle size d50 of the coated metallic pigments ranges from 5 μm to 100 μm .
3. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, characterized in that said metallic pigments contain from 20 to 85 % by weight of at least one of an oligomeric and a polymeric binding agent, based on the total weight of the coated metallic pigments.
4. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the coating contains, in addition to said binding agent, at least one of further additives and auxiliaries.
5. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 4, characterized in that the at least one of additives and auxiliaries comprises at least one of organic and inorganic colored pigments and dyes.

6. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 4, characterized in that the at least one of additives and auxiliaries comprises at least one of curing agents, photoinitiators and polymerization initiators.
7. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 4, characterized in that the at least one of additives and auxiliaries are varnish components, selected from the group consisting of fillers, degassing agents, film-forming auxiliaries, flameproofing agents, adhesion promoters, light-stabilizing agents, flatting agents, polymerization initiators, radical interceptors, anticaking agents, slip agents, radiation-hardening reactive diluents, ultraviolet absorbers, flow-control agents, cross-linking catalysts, and waxes.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Currently Amended) Metallic pigments as defined in claim [[8]] 1, characterized in that the metallic pigments are primed with adhesion promoters for the binding agent coating.
11. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the binding agent(s) is/are selected from the group consisting of polyester resins, epoxide resins, polyurethane resins, UV-curing systems, acrylates, and mixtures thereof.
12. (Original) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 11, characterized in that the polyester resins are selected from the group consisting of saturated polyester resins containing OH groups and having a hydroxyl number between 30-150 mg of KOH/g, saturated carboxyl group-containing polyester resins having an acid value between 25 - 70 mg of KOH/g, and mixtures thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 11, characterized in that the epoxide resins are selected from the group of those having more than one epoxide ring.
14. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 11, characterized in that the polyurethane resins are selected from the group consisting of OH-functional polyester resins, polyacrylate resins with at least one of blocked and unblocked polyisocyanates, and mixtures thereof.
15. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 11, characterized in that the UV-curing systems are compounds having at least one of mono-unsaturated and polyunsaturated double bonds.
16. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 6, characterized in that the curing agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyalkylamine-containing compounds, glycidyl group-containing compounds, epoxy group-containing compounds, triglycidyl isocyanurates, and mixtures thereof.
17. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, characterized in that cross-linking of the binding agent(s) and of any curing agent present is thermally inducible.
18. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the coating containing binding agent contains corrosion inhibitors.
19. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 18, characterized in that the corrosion inhibitors are at least one of anodic and cathodic corrosion inhibitors.
20. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 18, characterized in that the corrosion inhibitors are corrosion-stabilizing pigments selected from the group consisting of strontium zinc phosphosilicate, zinc aluminum polyphosphate hydrate, zinc calcium aluminum

strontium phosphatesilicate hydrate, zinc calcium strontium orthophosphatesilicate hydrate, strontium aluminum polyphosphate hydrate, calcium aluminum polyphosphatesilicate hydrate, sodium molybdate, sodium phosphomolybdate, calcium molybdate, calcium phosphomolybdate, zinc molybdate, zinc phosphomolybdate, zinc phosphate complex, and mixtures thereof.

21. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 18, characterized in that the corrosion-stabilizing pigments have a mean particle size ranging from 0.1 to 10 μm .

22. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the metallic pigments are selected from the group consisting of aluminum, copper, iron, titanium, nickel, zinc, and brass pigments, and mixtures thereof.

23. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the metallic pigments are oxidized metallic pigments.

24. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the metallic pigments are chemically wet-process oxidized aluminum pigments.

25. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the metallic pigments are metal-containing interference pigments having at least one of a metal core and a metal coating.

26. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the powder exists as a paste in conjunction with a liquid phase.

27. (Previously Presented) A masterbatch for powder-based varnishes, characterized in that the masterbatch contains metallic pigments as defined in claim 1.

28. (Previously Presented) A coating composition, characterized in that the coating composition contains metallic pigments as defined in claim 1, which metallic pigments are resistant to corrosion following curing of the coating composition.
29. (Original) A coating composition as defined in claim 28, characterized in that the coating composition contains a powder-based varnish.
30. (Previously Presented) A coating composition as defined in claim 28, characterized in that the coating composition has a metal content of from 0.5 % to 15 % by weight, based on the total weight of the coating composition.
31. (Original) A coating composition as defined in claim 30, characterized in that the coating composition has a metal content of from 2 % to 8 % by weight.
32. (Previously Presented) A coating composition as defined in claim 29, characterized in that the powder-based varnish and the coating of the metallic pigments contain the same binding agent.
33. (Previously Presented) A coated object, characterized in that the object is coated with metallic pigments as defined in claim 1.
34. (Previously Presented) A coated object as defined in claim 33, characterized in that the object is a facade element, a window frame, a vehicle body, or a frame of a vehicle.
35. (Previously Presented) A process for the production of a metallic pigment as defined in claim 1, comprising the steps of:
- a) preparing a solution or dispersion of at least one of an oligomeric and a polymeric binding agent in an organic solvent,
 - b) coating the metallic pigment with said binding agent either by

- i) dispersing the metallic pigment in the solution or dispersion produced in step a) followed by atomization thereof, or
- ii) atomizing the solution or dispersion produced in step a) onto metallic pigments fluidized in a gas stream, and
- c) drying the metallic pigments coated with binding agent in a turbulent gas stream.

36. (Original) A process for the production of a metallic pigment as defined in claim 35, characterized in that the metallic pigments coated with binding agent are, following step c), additionally subjected to size classification.

37. (Previously Presented) A process as defined in claim 35, characterized in that at least one of further additives and auxiliaries are added to the at least one of a oligomeric and polymeric binding agent dissolved or dispersed in solvent.

38. (Previously Presented) The process as defined in claim 37, characterized in that the at least one of additives and auxiliaries are selected from the group consisting of curing agents, photoinitiators and polymerization initiators.

39. (Previously Presented) The process as defined in claim 37, characterized in that the at least one of additives and auxiliaries are selected from the group consisting of corrosion inhibitors and corrosion-stabilizing pigments.

40. (Previously Presented) The process as defined in claim 35, characterized in that the solvent used is selected from the group consisting of water, an organic solvent, and a water-containing organic solvent.

41. (Previously Presented) The process as defined in claim 35, characterized in that the steps (bi) and (c) are combined in that atomization of the coated metallic pigments and the elimination of the solvent is carried out by spray drying.

42. (Previously Presented) The process as defined in claim 35, characterized in that the steps (bii) and (c) are combined in that the coating and drying of the metallic pigments is carried out in a fluid bed or a fluidized bed in that the at least one of an oligomeric and a polymeric binding agent dissolved or dispersed in the solvent is spray injected and the solvent is removed by turbulent mixing in the fluid bed or the fluidized bed.
43. (Previously Presented) A method of preparing a material selected from the group consisting of paints, varnishes, powder-based varnishes, printing inks, plastics materials, and nail varnish, comprising adding to said material the metallic pigment as defined in claim 1.
44. (Previously Presented) A method of preparing a highly durable powder-based varnish for coating facades, comprising including in said varnish the metallic pigment as defined in claim 1.
45. (Previously Presented) A nail varnish, characterized in that it contains metallic pigments as defined in claim 1.
46. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 8, wherein said at least one additional layer is cross-linked.
47. (Canceled)
48. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 10, wherein the adhesion promoters are selected from the group consisting of functionalized silanes, functionalized polymers and organophosphorous compounds.
49. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 48 wherein said organophosphorous compound is selected from the group consisting of phosphate esters and phosphoric acid compounds.

50. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 13, wherein the epoxide resins have an epoxy equivalent weight (EEW) of from 400 to 2500.
51. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 23, wherein said oxidized metallic pigments are selected from the group consisting of oxidized copper and oxidized brass pigments.
52. (Previously Presented) Metallic pigments as defined in claim 26, wherein said liquid phase comprises an organic solvent.
53. (Previously Presented) A coated object, characterized in that, the object is coated with a coating composition as defined in claim 28.
54. (Previously Presented) A process as defined in claim 37, characterized in that said at least one of further additives and auxiliaries are added prior to contact of said at least one of a oligomeric and polymeric binding agent with the metallic pigments.